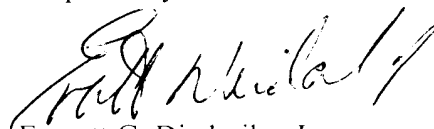


77. (New) A method of mass spectrometry comprising:  
providing an ion source;  
providing a lens downstream of said ion source; and  
providing a mass analyser downstream of said lens, said mass analyser comprising an ion detector; and  
regularly switching back and forth said lens between a first high sensitivity mode of operation wherein said lens focuses a beam of ions and a second low sensitivity mode of operation wherein said lens substantially defocuses a beam of ions.

**REMARKS**

This preliminary amendment cancels all the originally filed claims in this application and sets forth claims corresponding to those presented in the corresponding UK application. As all the claimed subject matter is fully supported by the original disclosure, no new matter has been added by any of these changes. Following entry of this preliminary amendment, examination of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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